

Message Text

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46

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EAE-00 CCO-00 SAM-01 SAJ-01

SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 CPR-01 /065 W

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O R 131152Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8634

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

USMISSION BERLIN UNN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL MUNICH

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USLO PEKING IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

CINCPAC

USIA WASHDC

DIA WASHDC

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CH, UR

SUBJECT: SOVIET TREATMENT OF MAO'S DEATH

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REF: MOSCOW 14309

1. THE SOVIETS WAITED UNTIL TODAY (SEPTEMBER 13) TO SIGN THE CONDOLENCE BOOK FOR CHAIRMAN MAO AT THE PRC EMBASSY IN MOSCOW. ACCORDING TO FOREIGN JOURNALISTS WHO SAW THEM AT THE EMBASSY, THE FOUR SOVIETS WERE POLITBURO MEMBERS MAZUROV (FIRST DEPUTY PERMIER) AND GROMYKO (FOREIGN MINISTER), DEPUTY PREMIER ARKHIPOV AND DEPUTY FROEIGN MINISTER IL'CHEV. (COMMENT: THIS CONTINGENT STRIKES US AS APPROPRIATE, BUT NO MORE. BOTH POLITBURO MEMBERS ARE BETTER KNOWN FOR THEIR NON-PARTY ROLES, WHILE BREZHNEV AND OTHER MORE SENIOR PARTY OFFICIALS STAYED AWAY.)

2. THE SOVIET PRESS CARRIED SHORT REPORTS FROM PEKING OVER THE WEEKEND ON THE MOURNING PERIOD, THE FOUR LEADERS OF THE CHINESE COMMITTEE, AND THE HEIGHTENED SECURITY MEASURES. IN THE ONLY HINT OF PUBLIC COMMENT THUS FAR, PRAVDA'S INTERNATIONAL WEEK (SEPTEMBER 12) BY MAI PODKLYUCHNIKOV, SAID THAT THE "BOURGEOIS PRESS" HAS BEEN CARRYING "CONTRADICTIONARY PREDICTIONS" ABOUT FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS IN CHINA AND "ITS RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION."

3. ANTI-PEKING PROPAGANDA HAS CEASED, AT LEAST FOR THE MOMENT, IN THE SOVIET MEDIA.
MATLOCK

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, SINO SOVIET DISPUTES, CONDOLENCE MESSAGES, DEATH IN OFFICE
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Disposition Authority: CunninFX
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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04 MAY 2006

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To: STATE
Type: TE
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